



President Doug Light congratulates Metro Labour Education Centre graduate Zofia Nowak while Metro Toronto Labour Council President Linda Torney looks on. Nowak was among 700 people, many of them put out of work by plant closures, who graduated from Centre programs co-sponsored by George Brown and the Labour Council, at a convocation ceremony at Casa Loma in late January.

Labour-sponsored programs aim to help victims of plant closures

For 15 years Mike Mukarjee made a good living assembling washing machines at the Strachan Avenue Inglis plant. Then, suddenly, it shut its doors for good.

Mukarjee set off on a vain search for work. He says he was, like many of his co-workers, "too old to hire, too young to retire."

"I felt like I was drowning. Then the (Metro) Labour Education Centre threw me a lifeline."

Mukarjee enrolled in a Centre skills training program, co-operatively sponsored by the Metro Labour Council and George Brown, where he upgraded his skills and learned to use a computer – preparation for a desk job in the growing service sector of Canada's economy.

"Workers who are losing their jobs in manufacturing must be provided with meaningful training for jobs in new

sectors," says Metro Labour Education Centre Skills Training Co-ordinator Janet Dassinger.

While more than 60 per cent of the Centre's graduates are successful in finding work after graduation, their new service sector jobs pay 40 per cent less than the industrial jobs they lost, and far fewer are unionized.

"Training is not a substitute for jobs," she says.

Mukarjee, and several other former Inglis employees, were among 700 people who graduated from Centre programs in late January – many at a Casa Loma Campus convocation ceremony.

Keynote speaker at the convocation was Ellen Gabriel, the elected spokesperson for the traditional Longhose of the Mohawk nation, who told graduates that "it's important to keep (your) traditions and culture."

More new students here already have degrees, diplomas

More first-year students are coming to George Brown with cap – and gown – in hand.

They're enrolling in post-secondary programs after graduating from university or other college programs.

A survey of first-year students in the fall of 1990 has found that almost one in four already have university degrees, college diplomas, or have earned some university credits.

That's a 30 per cent increase from 1988, and more than twice the level of most other Metro colleges.

The biggest increase was in university graduates, who jumped from four to seven per cent of new post-secondary students.

The survey also found that the number of people without secondary school diplomas increased two per cent to eight per cent of the total.

The 33-question survey, which was conducted at all six Metro area colleges, showed that George Brown is different from other colleges in several ways:

- George Brown has the largest number of students who are married (11 per cent) and the largest number who report having people who are financially dependent on them (22 per cent).
- It also has the oldest student population, with 60 per cent of new students over 21 years old.
- A far greater number of George Brown students rely on public transit to get to college (77 per cent), and more spend an hour or more travelling each way (33 per cent).
- George Brown had the smallest proportion (29 per cent) of students who reported that secondary school was their primary activity in the year before college, and the largest (33 per cent) who reported full-time work in that period.

Women now make up 56 per cent of all first-year students at the college – a four per cent increase from 1988.



Comment by Doug Light

We are still in the underfunding era

It should come as no surprise to regular readers of this column if I say that the financial state of the college has been a major preoccupation during the 13 years I have spent at George Brown.

With few exceptions, these years have been marked by declining federal government education spending, and provincial government funding that has usually provided some protection from inflation – but no real increase.

We are all, unfortunately, too familiar with the effects of chronic underfunding: outdated teaching equipment, limited services, and greater demands on staff.

Our struggle has been to maintain appropriate levels of programming and services, and respond to new needs in the community, with a budget that, in effect, grows smaller every year.

We now know that this struggle, and government underfunding, will continue for at least another year.

The recently announced increase in provincial government funding for colleges for the 1991/92 year of 7.3 per cent works out to a real increase for George Brown of less than five per cent, after some money is deducted for special purposes and our enrolment is factored in.

A five per cent increase in the provincial operating grant, which accounts for about half our total revenue, will, in all probability, constrict our operations even further.

This era of underfunding will continue to demand a high degree of resourcefulness and creativity by staff. All my experience at George Brown tells me that the people who work at this college possess these qualities in abundance, and will successfully meet the special challenges, and discover the opportunities, of this difficult environment.



PEACE HUG – Business students Tim Mitchell and Kathy Kuzmas celebrate St. Valentine's Day with a "Peace Hug" in the atrium of 200 King St. E. Dozens of students linked arms in the shape of a giant peace symbol for several minutes on Feb. 14, in an event organized by the Marketing Club, of which Kuzmas is president. Mitchell is social director of the St. James Student Administrative Council.

Bell donates a \$4-million computer

Bell Canada has given George Brown a \$4-million computer that will increase the speed and storage capacity of the college's largest system.

By installing a bigger and more powerful mainframe, College officials say that Eden—the software used for student records—may run better and faster.

"It gave us some needed storage capacity," says new Information Systems Director Judy Cornwell. "We're hoping this donation will improve response time."

(See Names in News item on Cornwell on page 4.)

The Bull computers donated by Bell have three to four times the power of the existing machines and about three times the storage capacity.

It will take several months to install and test the donated equipment because it must be done without disturbing the ongoing computer operations in student records, Com-

puter Services Associate Director Gamini DeZoysa says.

The new system is expected to be fully operational by spring.

The Bell equipment, which includes 24 disk drives and three computers, is so big that the computer room at 146 Kendal Ave. has had to be enlarged to accommodate it.

The four-year-old donated equipment, with an original market value of \$4 to \$5 million, also features what is known as a "dual processor" mode. That means that if one computer fails, the other continues to operate without a serious disruption in services.

In the past, a "crash" or system failure might have meant delays up to four or five hours, but when the new system is in place, "down time will be very minimal," says DeZoysa.

The new computer will also speed full operation of the Eden software system and the college's communications network.

Events

Feb. 28 - Reception for Doug Light, Casa Loma Staff Lounge, 160 Kendal Ave., 3 to 6 p.m. All Casa Loma staff are invited to attend. Call the campus manager's office for more information.

March 4 - Gala dinner at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in honour of retiring College President Doug Light. Tickets are \$75 per person, including a donation to the D.E. Light Scholarship Fund (for which a tax receipt will be issued). All staff are invited to attend. For information call the President's Office at 944-4474.

- Staff Development Seminar: *Advanced Companion to WordPerfect*. For all staff with experience with WordPerfect 5.0. 9 a.m. to noon, Casa Loma, Room E-132. Also offered on March 7, 11 and 14. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 4 to 8 - Reading Week.

March 5 - Board of Governors meeting, 5 p.m., Boardroom, 500 MacPherson Ave. All welcome. Call Enid Bailey (944-4479) for information.

- Health sciences book display for staff and students in health-related programs. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. James Campus, Room 664.

March 5 to 7 - Staff Development Course: *First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Basic Rescuer*. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 11 - *Spicer Commission Campus Forums*. Come and discuss issues facing Canada - the status of Quebec, regionalism, languages, etc. All staff and students are welcome. Results will go to the federal government's Spicer Commission. Noon to 2 p.m., 200 King St. E., Room 573. Pre-register by calling 867-2085. Also at Casa Loma, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., 500 MacPherson Boardroom. Pre-register by calling 944-4455. See March 12, 14 and 15 for other forums. Sponsored by the Citizens' Forum on Canada and George Brown College.

March 12 - *Spicer Commission Campus*



Photo: Mary Ann Hegan

A FISH OUT OF (FROZEN) WATER - Hospitality students Calvin Holmes (left) and Patrick Hazlitt admire a leaping salmon carved by world champion ice sculptor Yukio Matsuo at the School of Hospitality in late January. Matsuo, who works at the Takanawa Prince Hotel in Tokyo, Japan, spent less than four hours carving the fish and an eagle as part of a world tour.

Forum (see March 11 item). Noon to 1:30 p.m., 160 Kendal Ave., Casa Loma, Room C-318. Pre-register by calling 944-4455.

March 13 - Staff Development Seminar: *Personal Career Planning Workshop for Support Staff*. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 663. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 14 - College Council meeting, 8:45 to 11 a.m., Boardroom, 500 MacPherson Ave. Theme: implementation plans for the college's race and ethnic relations policy. All welcome.

- *Spicer Commission Campus Forums* (see March 11 item). St. James, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., 200 King St. E., Room 522. Pre-register by calling 867-2085. Kensington (in French), 4 to 6 p.m., Room 3106. Pre-register by calling 867-2435.

March 15 - *Spicer Commission Campus Forum* (see March 11 item). Kensington, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Room 3106. Pre-register by calling 867-2425.

March 18 - Staff Development Seminar: *Advanced Lotus 1-2-3 Version 2.2*. 9 a.m. to noon, Casa Loma Campus,

146 Kendal Ave., Room E-132. Also on March 21, 28 and April 1. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 20 - Staff Development Seminar: *Coping with Different Communication Styles*. Noon to 2 p.m., St. James Campus, 200 King St. E., Room 663. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 21 - Staff Development Seminar: *The Interviewing and Selection Process*. 9 a.m. to noon, Casa Loma, 160 Kendal Ave., Room C-318. For information call the Staff Training and Development Office at 944-4661.

March 25 - Deadline for Board of Governors' Awards of Excellence nominations. Completed nomination forms must be returned to the President's Office by 4:30 p.m. For extra nomination forms or information call the President's Office at 944-4475.

March 27 - Seminar: *Deaf Culture*. Noon to 1:30 p.m., 160 Kendal Ave., Room C-318. Sponsored by the Professional Development Committee of the Access Division. For information call Marguerite Wales at 944-4467.

March 29 - Good Friday. College closed.

Names in the News



at 146 Kendal; Juan Collados in the Computer Aided Learning Centre at 160 Kendal; Sherry Grant in Community Services at Nightingale; Anna Mancini at the Queen Street Day Care; Joyce Taylor in Fashion District Day Care at 511 Richmond St. W.; and Carmen Tsui in the Finance Department at 500 MacPherson.

Administrative staff transfers at the college include: Patricia Chorney-Rubin, who goes from Baycrest Day Care to Nightingale Day Care.

Faculty transfers include: Joe Bellomo, who moves from Upgrading to Math and Science at 160 Kendal; Brenda Bennett, who goes from Computer-Based Development at 146 Kendal to English and Liberal Studies at St. James; Fran Dungey moves from Math and Science at Kensington to Staff Training at 500 MacPherson; Sheila MacMillan, Barbara Revill and Marguerite Wales in Services for Students with Special Needs move from 146 Kendal to St. James; Malcolm MacNeil of the Math and Science Department moves from 160 Kendal Ave. to Kensington; and Ronald Mitchell of 160 Kendal moves from Computer-Aided Engineering to Architectural Engineering.

NEW PRESIDENT - Mitel Corporation Vice-President John Rankin (left) chats with Board of Governors member Alex Yeung after the Board appointed Rankin George Brown's third president at their February meeting. Rankin, who was a college teacher early in his career, says George Brown must meet the increasingly exacting demands of the public for high quality programs and services. "Quality is the biggest issue facing everyone, not just George Brown and the college system." He will join George Brown on April 2.

Judy Cornwell has joined George Brown as its new Director of Information Systems - a job that was formerly called director of computer services. She comes to the college after working as a consultant, and director of information systems for Corpita Corporation, a holding company for several carpeting manufacturers, and the Canadian Red Cross. She replaces Garry Watson, who was acting director of the department. A native of Australia, Cornwell moved to Canada after marrying a Canadian she met in California.

Human Resources reports the following staff changes:

New faculty at the college are: Heather Donovan in the School of Business at St. James; Gail Hunter in Community Services at Nightingale; Rudy Limberger, Doug Rowles, and Randell Storey in Electrical Technology at 160 Kendal; and Terry Rourke in Mechanical Systems Technology at 160 Kendal.

New support staff at the college are: Ashraf Choudry in Plant Operations

Support staff transfers include: Ellen Capano in Services for Students with Special Needs moves from 146 Kendal to St. James; Ann Dickson moves from the School of Business at St. James to Ontario Skills Development at 180 Frederick St.; Michelle McClory moves from Waterpark Day Care to Fashion District Day Care; Patricia Sturino in Community Services moves from Nightingale to St. James; Joyce Taylor moves from Fashion District Day Care to Waterpark Day Care; Cynthia Ulba returns to Fashion at Kensington from a secondment with Ontario Skills Development at St. James; and Christine Zupo moves from Fashion District Day Care to Baycrest Day Care.

Name changes include: Therese Davis in Human Resources, who is now Therese Sustar.

Leaving the college are: Gertie Danziger, who retires from the Finance Department at 500 MacPherson; Ina Barlow, Natalie Sirkis, Ann Stirling, Ronald Swentiski, and Peter Tsafatinos.

George Brown has established two bursaries as a permanent memorial to the women who were murdered at the Ecole Polytechnique in December, 1989. One will go to a second-year student in the Assaulted Women's and Children's Counsellor/Advocate program, while the other will be for a female second-year student enrolled in a School of Technology program. The bursaries cover the cost of tuition for one year as well as \$300 for books and materials. Criteria for the bursaries will be financial need, academic success, and leadership.

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